

DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 311 585

EA 021 361

AUTHOR Ringer, Joyce R.; And Others
TITLE Humanities Studies for Principals: An Approach to Growth in Intellectual Leadership.
PUB DATE 88
NOTE 25p.
PUB TYPE Tests/Evaluation Instruments (160) -- Reports - Descriptive (141)

EDRS PRICE MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS *Administrator Effectiveness; *Developmental Programs; Educational Development; Educational Research; Elementary Secondary Education; *Humanities; *Instructional Leadership; *Management Development; *Principals; School Administration
IDENTIFIERS *Georgia (Atlanta)

ABSTRACT

The Principals Center at Georgia State University is in its fifth year of providing personal growth and development programs for the 520 elementary, middle, and high school principals in the metropolitan Atlanta area. An important component of those programs has been the study of the humanities. The background, goals, and evaluation plan for the humanities studies are given, as well as specific scholars and program topics. Program outlines for two humanities seminars, a schedule of events for the humanities program for principals (1987), and the humanities seminar entitled "On Liberty and the First Amendment: A Study for Principals" (1988) are appended. (Author/SI)

* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *

ED311585

**Humanities Studies for Principals:
An Approach to Growth In Intellectual Leadership**

Joyce Ringer

Dr. Carla Northcutt

Dr. Joe Richardson

Principals Center, Georgia State University

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION
CENTER (ERIC)

X This document has been reproduced as
received from the person or organization
originating it.

☐ Minor changes have been made to improve
reproduction quality.

• Points of view or opinions stated in this docu-
ment do not necessarily represent official
OEI position or policy.

"PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE THIS
MATERIAL HAS BEEN GRANTED BY

*Joyce R.
Ringer*

TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES
INFORMATION CENTER (ERIC)."

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

EA 021361

Abstract

The Principals Center, Georgia State University is in its fifth year of providing personal growth and development programs for the 520 elementary, middle and high school principals in the metropolitan Atlanta area. An important component of those programs has been the study of the humanities. The background, goals and evaluation plan for the humanities studies are given, as well as specific scholars and program topics.

HUMANITIES STUDIES FOR PRINCIPALS: AN APPROACH TO GROWTH IN
INTELLECTUAL LEADERSHIP

Joyce Ringer, Humanities Program Coordinator
Principals Center, Georgia State University
Dr. Carla Northcutt, Principal, Oakwood High School
Cobb County, Georgia
Dr. Joe Richardson, Director, Principals Center
Georgia State University

BACKGROUND

In July 1984, the Principals Center was established at Georgia State University (GSU). Currently, eleven school systems are institutional members. Membership entitles principals in the member districts to participate in Center-sponsored activities. Presently, there are approximately 520 principals who are members. These members are actively involved in setting the direction of the Center and serve on advisory committees that plan and implement program activities.

The major focus of the Center is the improvement of instructional leadership. As a member of the Center noted, "to be an innovative leader one must first be committed to being continually educated by new thoughts and ideas. The excitement and challenge that come with new knowledge and the desire to implement innovative changes are prerequisite to being an effective educator." According to another member, "the daily demands upon the principal of a large metropolitan school tend to narrow one's focus. Rarely is there time to draw back from the 'fix-it', 'solve-it' demands that occur daily to reflect on the broader mission of education....To be an educational leader, one must take advantage of opportunities to recharge in order to return to the nitty-gritty with renewed vision and purpose."

To give principals opportunities to "recharge," the Principals' Center has provided Humanities studies each year of its existence. The Pilot Program was designed and implemented in cooperation with the staff of the National Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Sciences (the National Faculty). The program was designed to provide the members of the Principals' Center an opportunity to renew themselves intellectually; to discover the relevance of the humanities to their work; to assert themselves once again as the scholars/leaders in their schools; and to achieve a sense of collegiality within their profession.

THE PILOT PROGRAM

The pilot humanities program consisted of four two-hour seminars held on the GSU campus. (See Appendix A) The seminars were led by National Faculty scholars who used a lecture/discussion format. The sessions were organized around a series of interdisciplinary topics: Censorship-- The History of a contemporary Problem; Literacy-- The Foundation of Education; Evaluation-- A Matter of Ethics; and Collegiality-- Creating an Intellectual Atmosphere in the Schools.

The humanities pilot project was funded primarily from funds in the Principals Center development budget. The executive director also sought and received financial support from the Council for Basic Education.

One requirement for participation in the pilot humanities program was to write an essay. Although the participants had some reluctance about this at first, the assignment proved to be a great success. The essays have been compiled and published in

booklet form. The finished document was distributed to schools and principal centers around the country. Completing this assignment gave the participants good feelings about their involvement in a scholarly activity. Also, as a result of this positive writing experience, the participants are now engaged in other writing activities. The Principals Center has gone on to offer specialized writing seminars in response to request from principal members.

During the seminar sessions and at the conclusion of the pilot project, the participants were asked to evaluate the program. The participants' responses were overwhelmingly positive to the humanities series. One participant stated, "The persons who led the discussions...stretched our minds....The intellectual and academic stimulation was challenging. The professional camaraderie was delightful." Participants also reported success in applying knowledge gained from the seminars to the daily operation of their schools. For example, one participant used a class exercise at her school, and reported that the exercise helped create a stronger collegial relationship among the teachers at the school. In addition to the enthusiastic comments about the pilot project, the participants clearly voiced a need for a more intensive and extensive project. As one of the participants of the pilot project stated, the program "whetted my appetite to learn more."

CONTINUATION OF HUMANITIES PROGRAMS

A committee of principals working from the recommendations of participants in the pilot program planned seminars for the

second year following the overall theme: The Evolution of Intellectual Leadership (Appendix B) The format of lecture/discussion was followed with members of the National Faculty again leading the program. Seminars were: "The Principal as Communicator and Writer"; "The Principal as Philosopher"; "The Principal as Team Member"; "The Principal as Historian"; and "The Principal as Ethnician." Again, the evaluations of participants was uniformly positive and requesting continuation of the humanities programs.

The third year of the program brought changes because of budget restraints and increased time pressures on principals from the education reform mandated by the Quality Basic Education law in Georgia. The Principals Center sought and received financial support from the Georgia Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Humanities. The programs presented were in celebration of the Bicentennial of the U. S. Constitution and consisted of an intensive 3-day institute and two evening follow-up sessions. (Appendix C) The study was led by political science, law and history scholars from Georgia State University. Two highlights of the program were a Federalist/Anti-Federalist debate and a session on constitutional issues faced by school principals. Comments by participants were uniformly positive and indicated that the knowledge gained by principals in the program would be used to increase humanities knowledge in Atlanta area schools.

The program planned for this the fourth year of Humanities studies will be led by scholars from the Philosophy Department of Georgia State University with the keynote address given by the

Georgia Secretary of State, Max Cleland (see Appendix D). Again, this particular program, its topic, and speaker were planned by the principals who comprise the steering committee of the Humanities program.

While the environment of the Principals Center and its members, such as financial and time constraints, have and will continue to have influence on specifics of the Humanities program, the basic goals remain. Through taking part in the institutes and seminars, participants will:

- 1) Come to value the study of the humanities
- 2) Apply the knowledge gained in this program to the daily operation of their schools, thus helping the schools become intellectual centers where good teaching and serious study are of primary importance.
- 3) Apply strategies for working more closely with teachers, thus fostering collegial relationships between teachers and themselves.
- 4) Learn to write more effectively.
- 5) Establish a principals' network where principals, as colleagues, discuss problems and solutions to administrative issues at their institutions.

APPENDIX A
HUMANITIES SEMINAR FOR PRINCIPALS

Introduction

The Principals' Institute at Georgia State University (GSU), in cooperation with the National Humanities Faculty (NHF), announces the Humanities Seminar, a continuing education program for 15 selected metropolitan Atlanta-area principals. The seminar will consist of four, two-hour evening sessions to be held at GSU. The seminar will focus on the relevance of humanities studies in understanding and dealing with contemporary educational issues. The dates and topics to be covered are:

TOPIC	DATE	TIME
Censorship: The History of a Contemporary Problem	1-22-86	7:00-9:00 PM
Literacy: The Foundation of Education	2-12-86	7:00-9:00 PM
Collegiality: Creating an Intellectual Atmosphere in the Schools	3-12-86	7:00-9:00 PM
Evaluation: A Matter of Ethics	4-16-86	7:00-9:00 PM

If you are selected to participate in the Seminar it is anticipated that you will develop an in-depth knowledge of each topic which will broaden your perspective on these issues, stimulate you to continue exploration of the topics and prepare you to be a more effective educational leader. The Humanities Seminar will serve as a pilot project for the Principals' Institute's 1986 Spring Conference, which will also focus on the humanities. As a participant of the Humanities Seminar you will have the opportunity to be actively involved in the Spring Conference, to be held on May 8 and 9, 1986.

Criteria for Selection

Candidates must:

- Be full-time principals (elementary, middle, junior high, high school) in one of the 11 member school districts of the Principals' Institute
- Have completed one year in the role of principal
- Submit the completed application
- Submit a one-page letter detailing reasons for applying
- Indicate on the application that you intend to remain a principal for at least one year after the 1985-86 academic year

Program Requirments

Principals who are selected to participate must agree to the following:

- Attend each of the four seminar sessions
- Complete required reading assignments
- Produce an essay, to be compiled and published in a set of proceedings, on a topic related to the Seminar's purposes
- Be a presenter at the annual Spring Conference (if requested)

All materials (including texts) will be supplied by the Principals' Institute.

Program Outcomes

This is a pilot project intended to assist principals in their roles as academic and instructional leaders. There is the expectation that the participants in this initial experience will benefit personally and professionally. It also is anticipated that this pilot group will be instrumental in recommending changes and modifications for subsequent programs of this nature.

To that end, each person who successfully completes the program will:

- Be listed in the Principals' Institute's registry of Humanities Fellows
- Receive a certificate of merit at a ceremony during the annual Spring Conference
- Receive three copies of the published proceedings (which will include his/her essay)

Selection Procedure

To be considered as a candidate for the Humanities Seminar, complete the enclosed application and return it to:

Dr. Joe Richardson
Box 667
Georgia State University
University Plaza
Atlanta, GA 30303-3083

The application should be submitted by December 6, 1985. The selection procedure is as follows:

- Applications will be reviewed by a committee of the Advisory Board for Program Development of the Principals' Institute. This committee will recommend participants from the candidate pool.
- Finalists will be notified by December 16, 1985. Each finalist will receive a complete program guide and set of directions.

Georgia State University, a unit of the University System of Georgia, is an equal educational opportunity institution and an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

Humanities Seminar Application

Date _____
Name _____
School _____
School Address _____
_____ Zip _____
District _____ Phone _____
Home Address _____
_____ Home Phone _____
Years as Principal _____ Years as Teacher _____
Subject(s) Taught _____

Academic Preparation

Degree _____	Major _____	College/Univ _____
Degree _____	Major _____	College/Univ _____
Degree _____	Major _____	College/Univ _____
Degree _____	Major _____	College/Univ _____

I intend to remain a principal for the 1986-1987 academic year.

Yes

No

Signed

Return: Dr. Joe Richardson
Box 667
Georgia State University
University Plaza
Atlanta, GA 30303-3083

TENTATIVE FACULTY FOR THE HUMANITIES SEMINAR

Censorship: The History of a Contemporary Problem

Dr. Ben Ladner, President of the National Humanities Faculty

1-22-86 7:00-9:00 PM

Literacy: The Foundation of Education

Dr. Michael Cook, Professor of English, Yale University

2-12-86 7:00-9:00 PM

Collegiality: Creating an Intellectual Atmosphere in the Schools

Dr. Joseph Milner, Chairman, Department of Education, Wake
Forest University

3-12-86 7:00-9:00 PM

Evaluation: A Matter of Ethics

Dr. Earl Siedman, Former Dean, College of Education, University
of Massachusetts

4-16-86 7:00-9:00 PM

APPENDIX B

THE PRINCIPALS' INSTITUTE
AND
THE NATIONAL FACULTY OF HUMANITIES,
ARTS AND SCIENCES
PROUDLY ANNOUNCE
HUMANITIES SEMINAR II
FOR PRINCIPALS

HUMANITIES SEMINAR II FOR PRINCIPALS

Introduction

The Principals' Institute at Georgia State University (GSU) in cooperation with the National Faculty of Humanities, Arts and Sciences announces Humanities Seminar II, a continuing education program for 22 selected metropolitan Atlanta-area principals. The seminar will consist of five-three hour evening sessions to be held at various appropriate places around the metro area. This series of seminars has the theme, "The Evolution of Intellectual Leadership." The dates and topics to be covered are:

DATE	TOPIC	PLACE
October 22	"The Principal as Writer"	Southern Bell Conference Center
November 22	"The Principal as Philosopher"	Emory University
January 14	"The Principal as Team Member"	Commerce Club
February 4	"The Principal as Historian"	Atlanta Historical Society
February 25	"The Principal as Ethnician"	Emory University

During each of these Seminars and the culminating Spring Conference on March 4 and 5 at GSU, participants will have direct contact with some of the finest scholars in the United States. The National Faculty is composed of over 400 scholars each of whom has national and international reputations. Last year's lecturers were Ben Ladner, president of the National Faculty; Michael Cooke, Department of English, Yale University; Earl Siedman, Dean of Education, University of Massachusetts, and Joe Milner, Dean of Education, Wake Forest.

Because of the overwhelming success of the pilot project and last year's Spring Conference which brought these scholars and many others such as Ashley Montagu to Atlanta, there are plans to extend the seminars into a yearly event.

If you meet the following criteria and are selected to participate, it is expected that you will benefit personally and professionally.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION/PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Candidates must:

- Be full-time principals (elementary, middle, junior high, high school) in one of the 11 member school districts of the Principals' Institute
- Submit the completed application
- Agree to attend each of the five seminar sessions
- Complete required reading assignments
- Produce an essay to be compiled and published in a set of proceedings on a topic related to the Seminar's purposes
- Participate in the Spring Conference
- Participate in a one-week residential summer institute in the summer 1987 on a mutually acceptable date to be determined later.

Selection Procedure

To be considered as a candidate for the Humanities Seminar II, complete the enclosed application and return it to:

Dr. Joe Richardson
Box 667
Georgia State University
University Plaza
Atlanta, GA 30303-3083

The application is to be submitted no later than October 4, 1986. The selection procedure is as follows:

- Applications will be reviewed by a committee of the Advisory Board for Program Development of the Principals' Institute. This committee will recommend participants from the candidate pool.
- Finalists will be notified by October 13, 1986. Each participant will receive a program guide and set of directions.

HUMANITIES SEMINAR II APPLICATION

Date _____

Name _____

School Name _____

School Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

District _____ School Phone AC(____)____-____

Home Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone AC(____)____-____

Years as Principal _____ Years as Teacher _____

Subject(s) Taught _____

Academic Preparation:

Degree _____ Major _____ College/Univ _____

Degree _____ Major _____ College/Univ _____

Degree _____ Major _____ College/Univ _____

Degree _____ Major _____ College/Univ _____

Have you participated in other Humanities Seminars? _____

Do you intend to remain a principal for the 1987-88 academic
year? _____

1. Write a paragraph describing the nature of your interest in participating in Humanities Seminar II.

2. Write a paragraph defining yourself in terms of your role as principal.

Signature_____

Return to: Dr. Joe Richardson
Box 667
Georgia State University
University Plaza
Atlanta, GA 30303-3083

APPENDIX C

SCHEDULE FOR THE HUMANITIES PROGRAM FOR PRINCIPALS, 1987
A BICENTENNIAL STUDY OF THE U. S. CONSTITUTION

THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED
BY THE GEORGIA ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
AND THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES.

Monday, October 5

8:30---Welcome
Introductory Lecture by Dr. Bill Thomas

9:30---Break

9:45---Historical Background of the Constitutional Convention
Dr. Harvey Jackson

10:45--Break

11:00--Oral Interpretation of Constitutional Debates
Dr. Bill Thomas and Joseph Peek

12:00--Discussion of the Debates

12:45--Reading Assignments & Wrap-Up.

1:00---Adjourn

Tuesday, October 6

8:30---General Principles of the U. S. Constitution
Lecture and Discussion led by Dr. Bill Thomas

9:30---Break

9:45---Application of the Principles of the U. S. Constitution
Lecture and Discussion led by Dr. Bill Thomas

10:45--Break

11:00--Videotape: "Moyers: In Search of the Constitution"

12:00--Discussion of tape led by Dr. Thomas

12:45--Wrap-Up & Reading Assignments

1:00--Adjourn

Wednesday, October 7

8:30---Application of Constitutional Principles to Civil Rights
"Eyes on the Prize" Videotape

9:30---Break

9:45---Discussion of Videotape
Dr. Bill Thomas and Dr. Mary Radford

10:45--Break

11:00--Equal rights lecture and discussion
Dr. Mary Radford

12:30--Summary Lecture & Evaluation
Dr. Bill Thomas

1:00---Adjourn

Tuesday, November 17

6:00---Constitutional Questions faced by School Principals in 1987
Dr. William Thomas

6:45---Break

7:00---Buzz Groups: Principals break into groups of 5-6 to
discuss lecture and share personal school/
Constitutional issues.

8:15---Full Group Discussion led by Dr. Thomas

9:00---Adjourn

Wednesday, December 2

6:00---Review of Constitutional Study in October & November
Dr. Thomas

7:00---Break

7:15---Principals share ideas for School Activities in
Celebration of the Bicentennial of the U. S. Constitution.

8:30--Report of Evaluation Committee to Principals

9:00--Adjourn.

SCHEDULE FOR THE HUMANITIES PROGRAM FOR PRINCIPALS, 1987
A BICENTENNIAL STUDY OF THE U. S. CONSTITUTION

THIS PROGRAM IS SUPPORTED
BY THE GEORGIA ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
AND THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES.

Session 4

Tuesday, November 17

6:30---Constitutional Questions faced by School Principals in 1987
Dr. William Thomas

7:00---Buzz Groups: Principals break into groups of 5-6 to
discuss lecture and share personal school/
Constitutional issues.

8:15---Full Group Discussion led by Dr. Thomas

9:00---Adjourn

Session 5

Wednesday, December 2

6:30---Review of Constitutional Study in October & November
Dr. Thomas

7:15---Buzz Groups: Principals share ideas for School Activities
in Celebration of the Bicentennial of the U. S.
Constitution.

8:15---Reports from Buzz Groups

8:45--Report of Evaluation Committee to Principals

9:00--Adjourn.

APPENDIX D

THE PRINCIPALS CENTER,
THE GEORGIA ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES,
AND
THE NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE HUMANITIES
PRESENT THE HUMANITIES SEMINAR:

ON LIBERTY

AND THE

FIRST AMENDMENT:

A Study for Principals

October 4, 1988

12:45 - 4:30 pm

Urban Life Center

Georgia State University

HIGHLIGHTS

Tuesday, October 4, 1988

- 12:45-1pm Welcome
Urban Life Center Auditorium
- 1-1:20 pm Opening Session
Max Cleland
"The Significance of the
U.S. Constitution for
Georgia Educators"
Urban Life Center Auditorium
- 1:20-3 pm Dr. Grant Luckhardt
"On Liberty and the First
Amendment"
- 3-3:15 pm Break
- 3:15-4:30 pm Discussion Groups *
Dr. Linda A. Bell
Dr. Timothy Mark Renick
Mr. W. Douglas Seanor
Dr. Mark I. Wallace
Urban Life Center
Rooms TBA
- * The audience will divide into four
discussion groups. Each group will
engage in a discussion of J.S. Mills'
essay On Liberty and Dr. Luckhardt's
lecture.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

MR. MAX CLELAND
Secretary of State
Georgia

SCHOLARS

DR. GRANT LUCKHARDT
Associate Professor, Philosophy
Georgia State University

DR. LINDA A. BELL
Professor, Philosophy
Georgia State University

DR. TIMOTHY MARK RENICK
Assistant Professor, Philosophy
Georgia State University

MR. W. DOUGLAS SEANOR
Adjunct Faculty, Philosophy
Georgia State University

DR. MARK I. WALLACE
Assistant Professor, Philosophy
Georgia State University

REGISTRATION

To register for the seminar, complete and mail the attached registration form to the address shown on the form. There is no fee for the seminar.

Phase I: registration for Institute member systems only (Atlanta, Buford, Clayton, Cobb, Decatur, DeKalb, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, Marietta and Rockdale). Seventy-five places are reserved for members.

Registrants for Phase I will be mailed a copy of On Liberty, an essay by John Stuart Mills, to read prior to the seminar.

Deadline for Phase I registration is Tuesday, September 20, 1988.

Phase II: registration for members and non-members. This phase begins September 21 and includes registration on the day of the seminar, space permitting.